

**From:** Proto, Paul [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E9B2E837D7ED4826B3AC421843833318-PPROTO]  
**Sent:** 11/18/2021 8:11:33 PM  
**To:** Keclik, Donna [keclik.donna@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Impaired Waters List: Clean Water Council Update

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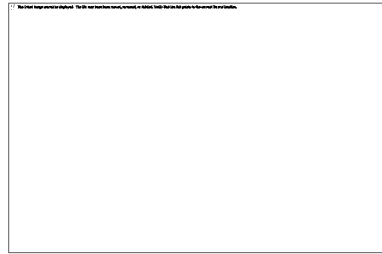
FYI

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## ED 013136A 00018654-00001

From the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA):

As required by the federal Clean Water Act, the MPCA creates a list of impaired waters — those that fail to meet water quality standards — every two years. The listings are based on intensive water monitoring of major lakes and streams in Minnesota's 80 watersheds, along with data from several partners.



For the draft 2022 list, the MPCA is adding 305 water bodies with 417 new impairments, bringing the total to 2,904 water bodies with 6,168 impairments.

Common impairments include:

- [Mercury](#) levels that lead to limits on fish consumption
- [Nutrients](#) that grow algae
- [Sediment](#) that clouds water
- [Bacteria](#) that can make water unsafe for swimming
- [Unhealthy conditions](#) for fish and bugs

The MPCA works with many partners to identify the sources of pollutants and stressors to aquatic life, and determine reductions in pollutants and other changes needed to restore waters to meet water quality standards.

In addition to the impairments above, the list also includes:

- [PFOS impairments](#) — Bodies of water where PFOS is found in fish tissue in several water bodies.
- [Sulfate impairments](#) — Water bodies with sulfate levels that may hinder the production of wild rice.

## Examples of Waters Being Removed from the Impaired Waters List

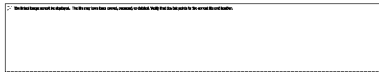
While the list includes newly detected impairments, there are waters in Minnesota coming off the impaired waters list due to years of collaborative effort, as well as some funding from the Clean Water Fund.

Examples in the linked story below include:

- Sunfish and LeMay Lakes in Dakota County for phosphorus
- Lake George in the City of St. Cloud for phosphorus
- South branch of the Buffalo River near Barnesville for sediment

[Read Full Story](#)

# Upcoming Meetings & Project Updates



## Upcoming Meetings

**Full Council:** The **December 20th** meeting is cancelled. The packet from the **November 15th** meeting (small grants RFP draft, strategic plan review, timeline for 2022 Clean Water Fund recommendations process) has been posted at [our web site](#).

**Policy Committee:** The next meeting is Friday, **November 19th** (topics: soil health conversation, discussion on pharmaceutical policy statement, policy topics for 2022). The presentations from the **October 22nd** meeting (topics: MPCA presentations on pharmaceuticals in lakes and wastewater treatment; review of future topics) have been posted [at our web site](#).

**Budget & Outcomes Committee:** The next meeting is **Friday, December 3rd** (topics: draft impaired waters list, draft 2022 Performance Report). The packet from the **November 5th** meeting (topics: review of latest draft for Water Legacy Grants RFP; timeline for 2022 recommendations and outreach strategy) [has been posted](#).

Meetings at MPCA have WebEx capability for on-line viewing. [Contact us](#) for details. NOTE: WebEx recordings are moving to a new server. We will only have on-demand access to archived WebEx recordings for the previous six months.

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## Updates on Projects Supported by the Clean Water Fund

**YouTube Video for Lake Irving in Bemidji:** The Board of Water and Soil Resources produced a [short video](#) and a [Snapshot article](#) about the project that improves Lake Bemidji.

**Homeowner perceptions of watering restriction scenarios in the Minneapolis–St. Paul metropolitan area:** The University of Minnesota's Department of Horticultural Science published a recent paper on the topic, with support from the Clean Water Fund.

**November 2021 Minnesota Technical Assistance Project Newsletter (MnTAP):** Water efficiency intern work is highlighted.

**A climate smart cereal with CFANS roots | College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences (umn.edu):** "Cascadian Farm Kernza® Flakes with Honey Oat Clusters Cereal benefits the environment with every spoonful."

**MPCA Smart Salting News - Fall 2021**

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## Other Related Water News

- [MPCA Agriculture Stewardship newsletter \(govdelivery.com\)](#)
- [DNR Newsletter for St. Louis River Area of Concern](#)

- [Fishers & Farmers Partnership Seeks Project Proposals for 2023 - Fishers & Farmers Partnership \(fishersandfarmers.org\)](#)
- [Cover crop finance database launches](#)
- [Working with Artists for Clean Water \(Capitol Region Watershed District\)](#)

## Walz, Flanagan Seek Applicants for Councils, Boards, and Commissions

Many state councils, boards, and commissions have terms that end in January, so announcements for positions are made in November.

You can see the entire list of open positions in the [More Details](#) link below.

There are several openings at the following organizations.

- Board of Water and Soil Resources
- Minnesota Environmental Quality Board
- Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources

[More Details](#)

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